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Most Rewarding Weekend of the Semester for the University of Dayton Debate Team

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Last weekend proved one of the most rewarding of this semester for the University of Dayton Debate Team, which not only successfully defended the Dayton-Yeshiva trophy in an annual contest with Yeshiva University of New York, but also won a third place trophy at Ohio's four-man state championship tournament.

On Friday and Saturday, February 25-26, the Debate Team traveled to Capital University in Columbus to participate in the four-man state championship finals. Defending the negative side of the proposition were Chris Dunskey and Ron Gerdes, both freshmen in Arts & Sciences, who achieved a remarkable record of five wins and one loss. Both boys are Daytonians and graduates of Chaminade High. So far this year, these two debaters have placed at five of the six tournaments they have attended, with respective win percentages of .769 and .846 in 26 rounds of debate.

Two other Daytonians upholding the affirmative side were Dwight Barnett (A & S 4) and Suzanne Beecroft (Ed 3). Although this was Dwight's first tournament of the year and only Sue's second, they managed a 3-win, 3-loss record against top competition. The overall record of 8-4 was recognized with the third place award in a field of nineteen colleges and universities. Ohio State and Xavier received first and second with records of 11-1.

The next evening, Jack Boos (A & S 2) and Gene Steurle (A & S 2) represented U.D. in the yearly audience-debate against Yeshiva University of New York at Beth Jacob Synagogue. Debating negative against the touring Yeshiva team, Gene and Jack received a unanimous 3-0 decision from the judging panel, consisting of local legal authorities, to retain the trophy for Dayton. Last year as freshmen they had won first the cup for U.D. U.D. This weekend Gene and Jack will travel to Ohio State to defend U.D.'s reputation in the state two-man championship debate tournament. Chris and Ron have already left for Notre Dame to participate in a highly prestigious national tournament there.

The topic for this year is: Resolved: that Law Enforcement Agencies in the United States Should Be Given Greater Freedom in the Investigation And Prosecution of Crime.